

CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
April 17, 2002
SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA

The meeting of the California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) was called to order on April 17, 2002 at 10:05 a.m. at San Bernardino City Hall, Council Chambers, 300 North D Street, San Bernardino, California.

Members Present: Rod Diridon, Chairperson
 Jerry Epstein
 Fran Florez
 William E. Leonard
 Joseph E. Petrillo
 T.J. Stapleton

Members Absent: Leland Wong, Vice Chairperson
 Ernest A. Bates
 Ben L. Hom

Approval of Minutes for March 20, 2002 Meeting

Chairperson Diridon presented the minutes for approval. Member Leonard moved to approve the March 20, 2002 meeting minutes. Member Stapleton seconded the motion. The minutes were approved 6-0.

Authority Members' Meetings for Compensation

Chairperson Diridon presented the list of meetings for compensation. Member Stapleton moved to approve the list. Member Leonard seconded the motion, which carried 6-0.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Mehdi Morshed reported on proposed and pending legislation pertaining to the Authority.

- SB796, authored by Senator Costa, as amended March 11, 2002. This bill would delete the Authority's termination date. This bill was heard by the Assembly Transportation Committee on April 16, 2002 and was passed by a vote of 12-4.
- SB1856, authored by Senators Costa, Burton, Figueroa, Karnette, Kuehl and Soto. This bill would provide for the issuance of a \$6 billion general obligation revenue bond for the purpose of funding the planning and construction of a high-speed train system in California. This bill would provide for the submission of the bond act to the voters for approval and would require a 50% match of funds by the Federal government. This bill is scheduled to be presented before the Senate Transportation Committee on May 7, 2002.

Executive Director Morshed reported on the status of the Authority's FY 2002-2003 budget, as proposed by Governor Davis. The Senate Subcommittee No. 2 approved the proposed budget and the Assembly Subcommittee will vote on the Authority's FY 2002-2003 budget on April 24, 2002.

Executive Director Morshed reported the public participation procedures in the environmental review process, are distinct from public outreach activities. After some discussion, it was decided that Christine Sproul, Attorney General's office, would be asked to provide an overview of public participation procedures and related issues as an agenda item at the next Authority Board meeting (May).

Executive Director Morshed reported the draft agreement between the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and the Authority for a \$1.25 million federal grant is currently being reviewed by FRA's legal division.

Executive Director Morshed reported, as the Authority Board Members had requested, staff is in the process of developing a proposed contract with the High-Speed Ground Transportation Association to provide assistance in the tracking of federal legislation, and federal issues related to the proposed California High-Speed Rail project.

Member Bill Leonard welcomed Chairperson Diridon and Authority Board Members to San Bernardino. Member Leonard introduced Honorable Judith Valles, the Mayor of San Bernardino. Mayor Valles welcomed the Authority to San Bernardino. She thanked the various staff representatives of legislative members present at this meeting for their interest in the high-speed rail project. She also thanked the members of Riverside County Transportation Commission and San Bernardino Association of Government who were present at the meeting. Mayor Valles stated San Bernardino recognizes the Authority as being in the early stages of analyzing alternative conceptual alignments for a proposed high-speed train system which would link Northern California, Los Angeles and the Inland Empire and San Diego, and expressed her enthusiasm for the high-speed rail project. She reported San Bernardino has received an additional \$280,000 for the renovation of the Santa Fe depot, totaling \$12 million and stated the results of HNTB's analysis of the Santa Fe Depot should be of special interest to the Authority. Mayor Valles introduced Raymond Casey, Deputy Director/City Engineer for the City of San Bernardino. Mr. Casey introduced Linda Bohlinger, HNTB.

San Bernardino Alignment Analyses

Linda Bohlinger, HNTB presented a summary of the work HNTB has done for the City of San Bernardino regarding refinement of potential high-speed rail alignments and station locations to serve San Bernardino. A copy of this presentation is available upon request.

Public Comment

Michael A. Townsend, Congressman Joe Baca

Mr. Townsend expressed Congressman Baca's support of the renovation of the Santa Fe Depot and the high-speed rail project.

Eddie L. Catoe, Senator Nell Soto

Mr. Catoe expressed Senator Soto feels transportation is the key to the economy and a high-speed train service is the solution to many local concerns. Mr. Catoe expressed Senator Soto's support for the high-speed train project.

John Bacon

Mr. Bacon expressed his support of "split trains" or express train service verses local service train service.

Metrolink Presentation

David Solow, Executive Director, Metrolink presented an update on the current and future Metrolink improvement projects. A copy of this presentation is available upon request.

Alan C. Miller, Train Riders Association of California

Mr. Miller reported TRAC has put together 14 resolutions and submitted the resolutions to the Board Members. Mr. Miller expressed his support of Altamount Pass Route, which is no longer being evaluated by the Authority.

Identification of Date and Location of Next Meeting

The next Authority Board meeting is scheduled May 15, 2002 in Oakland, CA.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.